

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An articulated support assembly comprising: a stepping head clamping lock;  
  
a lockable support assembly connected to said stepping head clamping lock and selectively releasably connectable to a stationary object for allowing multi-planar orthogonal manipulation of a device into a position with respect a plane of said stationary object; and  
  
a plurality of joints connected to said lockable support assembly that allows multi-planar orthogonal movement.
2. The assembly according to paragraph 1 further comprising a removable stepping head assembly.
3. The assembly according to paragraph 1 wherein said lockable support assembly includes at least one support arm.
4. The assembly according to paragraph 3 wherein said at least one support arm is connected to a joint of said plurality of joints.
5. The assembly according to paragraph 4 wherein said at least one support arm includes at least one position lock.
6. The assembly according to paragraph 5 wherein said at least one position lock prevents vertical movement when engaged.
7. The assembly according to paragraph 5 wherein said at least one position lock prevents horizontal movement when engaged.
8. The assembly according to paragraph 5 wherein said at least one position lock prevents movement of when engaged.

9. The assembly according to paragraph 4 wherein said at least one support arm includes at least one stationary object lock.
10. The assembly according to paragraph 9 wherein said at least one stationary object lock is a clamp lock.
11. The assembly according to paragraph 2 wherein said removable stepping head assembly further comprises a fine adjustment assembly.
12. The assembly according to paragraph 2 wherein said removable stepping head assembly further comprises a pitch lock.
13. The assembly according to paragraph 2 wherein said removable stepping head assembly receives said device.
14. The assembly according to paragraph 13 wherein said device is a medical device.